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Attorney Docket No. 9432-000154

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Jinhong K. Guo et al.

Serial No.: To be accorded

Filed: Herewith

Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ADAPTIVELY BINARIZING COLOR
DOCUMENT IMAGES



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed on it are attached.

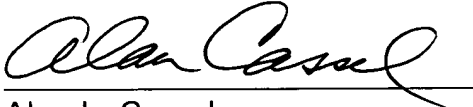
In accordance with MPEP 609 and 707.05(b), Applicant respectfully requests that each document listed be given thorough consideration and that the Examiner cite each document of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to each document. Applicant requests such initialing even if the Examiner does not consider: (1) a listed document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection; (2) a document to be prior art for any reason; or (3) that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with respecting a particular document. Applicant makes this request so that each document becomes cited on the face of a patent issuing on the present application.

Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with the duty to disclose information material to patentability under 37 CFR 1.56, but by listing such documents Applicant is not admitting that such documents are necessarily relevant or prior art. Applicant intends no representation that the listed documents represent the results of a complete search. Applicant anticipates that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search to determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of such search, will review for relevance every document listed on the attached Form even if not initialed.

Applicant earnestly solicits early and favorable consideration. If the Examiner should have any questions with regard to this filing, he or she should contact the undersigned attorney at (314) 726-7500.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 21, 2001

BY: 
Alan L. Cassel
Reg. No. 35,842
Attorneys for Applicant

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Attorney Docket Number

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Jinhong K. Guo et al.

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

9432-000154

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,823,194		Mishima et al.	04-18-1989	
		5,138,671		Yokoyama	08-11-1992	
		5,184,213		Ishida	02-02-1993	
		5,200,841		Kotaki et al.	04-06-1993	
		5,201,012		Hisano et al.	04-06-1993	
		5,452,107		Koike	09-19-1995	
		5,621,815		Talukdar et al.	04-15-1997	
		5,784,500		Homma et al.	07-21-1998	
		5,838,463		Gahang	11-17-1998	
		5,915,049		Kaji et al.	06-22-1999	
		5,949,901		Nichani et al.	09-07-1999	
		6,055,336		Niki	04-25-2000	
		6,061,476		Nichani	05-09-2000	
		6,072,907		Taylor et al.	06-06-2000	
		6,192,163	B1	Murayama	02-20-2001	
		6,195,467	B1	Asimopoulos et al.	02-27-2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.